

REMARKS

This response is intended as a full and complete response to the final Office Action mailed March 1, 2005.

Claims 8 and 10-12 are pending. Claims 1-7 and 9 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 10-12 are added. The amendments contain no new matter and are fully supported by the Applicants' original specification, including the drawings and original claims. For example, claims 10-12 are supported at least by pages 38-40 and Figures 33-35 of the Applicants' original specification.

In view of both the amendments presented above and the following remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that the claims now pending in the application are nonobvious over the cited references under 35 U.S.C. §103. Thus, the Applicants believe that all the claims are allowable.

It is to be understood that the Applicants, by amending the claims, do not acquiesce to the Examiner's characterizations of the art of record or to the Applicants' subject matter recited in the pending claims. Further, the Applicants are not acquiescing to the Examiner's statements as to the applicability of the prior art of record to the pending claims by filing the instant amendments.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

It has been noted that independent claim 8 has been allowed. The Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of claim 8. The Applicants have no comment on the statement of the reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter.

New claims 10-12 depend from allowable claim 8 and, thus, are also allowable, because they include the patentable subject matter of claim 8 and further elements.

35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 5, and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,606,746 to Zdepski et al. ("Zdepski") in further view of U.S. Patent 5,748,789 to Lee et al. (hereinafter "Lee").

Claims 1, 5, and 6 are cancelled.

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The Office Action rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zdepski in further view of U.S. Patent 5,748,789 to Lee and Ribas-Corbera et al. (U.S. 2002/0122598, hereinafter "Ribas-Corbera").

Claim 2 is cancelled.

The Office Action rejected claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zdepski in further view of Ribas-Corbera, U.S. Patent 6,177,937 issued to Alexander (hereinafter "Alexander") and Lee.

Claims 3 and 4 are cancelled.

The Office Action rejected claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zdepski in further view of Ribas-Corbera, Alexander, Vasconcelos ("Pre and Post-Filtering For Low Bit-Rate Video Coding," hereinafter "Vasconcelos") and Lee.

Claim 9 is cancelled.

THE SECONDARY REFERENCES

The secondary references made of record are noted. However, it is believed that the secondary references are no more pertinent to the Applicants' disclosure than the primary references cited in the office action. Therefore, the Applicants believe that a detailed discussion of the secondary references is not necessary for a full and complete response to this office action.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that claims 8 and 10-12 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited.

If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Eamon J. Wall, Esq. at (732) 530-9404 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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